

FOR RELEASE: March 28, 2007

Contact: Megan Castle/OEMC (303) 866-2262

## COLORADO ETHANOL COALITION ANNOUNCES FIRST ETHANOL SITE FOR THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS

First E85 Pump for Larimer County and City of Fort Collins Opens to Public

**Fort Collins, CO** – The Colorado Ethanol Coalition is celebrating today's grand opening of the first alternative fuel pump selling E85 fuel in Larimer County and in the City of Fort Collins. E85 is a blended mixture of 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent unleaded gasoline. Flex Fuel Vehicles that are capable of running on E85 fuel or regular gasoline located in this area will now be able to refuel on E85 at the Western Convenience Store located at 1113 West Drake Road in Fort Collins.

"Fort Collins drivers will now be able to refuel on E85 close to home," said Gov. Ritter. "In addition to this station, the Colorado E85 Coalition has partnered with the Poudre Valley Coop and the City of Fort Collins to open two additional E85 pumps in Fort Collins this year."

The City of Fort Collins currently has 31 Flex Fuel Vehicles (FFVs) and has plans to add another 17 to its fleet. Over 10,000 FFVs are estimated to be in the Fort Collins area, which should create a considerable demand for E85 in Fort Collins.

"It is essential to provide drivers convenient refueling access to biofuels," said Gov. Ritter. "There are currently 17 E85 fueling sites in Colorado and the Coalition has plans for a total of fifty E85 sites by the end of the year."

In attendance at the event will be Gov. Ritter, Doug Hutchinson, the Mayor of Fort Collins, Commissioner of Agriculture, John Stulp, representatives from the Colorado Ethanol Coalition, and other local dignitaries. The Grand Opening Event is open to the public and will feature alternative fuels experts, FFVs and E85 information.

Across the USA, over six million FFVs can use E85. Alternative fuels bring environmental benefits to Colorado as they are cleaner burning than other transportation fuels. Increased usage of biofuels will help reduce tail pipe emissions, reduce our oil dependency and help agribusinesses and our rural economies.

Service stations interested in installing E85 pumps and tanks may be eligible for funding and marketing through the E85 Coalition, and may also be eligible for tax credits from the State and Federal governments.

## **For More Information**

- The Grand Opening Event: Wednesday, March 28, 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Western Convenience, 1113 West Drake Road, Fort Collins, CO 80526
- E85 and Flexible Fuel Vehicles questions, visit www.E85fuel.com
- Colorado E85 Coalition, Gerry Harrow, (303) 275-4670 or www.colorado.gov/oemc